

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DETECTING THE VALIDITY OF AND RECOVERING CONFIGURATION DATA

Abstract

5 Methods are provided for detecting the validity of configuration data and
recovering configuration data in a computer system. A layout of present configuration
data is detected in the computer system. The present configuration data is stored in a
memory device which may be a non-volatile random access memory ("NVRAM")
device. Next, a layout of updated configuration data for the computer system is detected.
10 The updated configuration data is stored within program code, such as a BIOS, which
includes an updated configuration for the computer system. Next, the layout of the
present configuration data is compared to the layout of the updated configuration data in
the computer system. If the layout of the present configuration data matches the layout of
the updated configuration data, then it is determined that the present configuration data is
15 valid configuration data for the computer system. If the layout of the present
configuration data does not match the layout of the updated configuration data, then it is
determined that the present configuration data is invalid configuration data and the
present configuration data is either reset to a default state or recovered into an updated
memory location in the NVRAM.

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